Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.   (Original) A method comprising:

receiving a television stream;

causing the display of a first program of a first channel received in the television stream for viewing by a viewer; and

notifying the viewer of an event occurring in a second program of a second channel being broadcast concurrently with the first program.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the television stream comprises an enhanced television stream.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising receiving an event notification within the enhanced television stream, the event notification indicating occurrence of the event.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the enhanced television stream comprises a digital television stream and the event notification comprises an ATVEF trigger.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving an event notification indicating occurrence of the event, the event notification comprising an ATVEF trigger communicated over the Internet.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising automatically causing the changing of the channel after the event occurs to display the second program of the second channel instead of the first program.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising concurrently causing the display of the first program on a first portion of a display and the second program on a second portion of the display.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising identifying portions of programs as signifying events.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising registering for notification of events.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising receiving a plurality of event notifications, filtering the event notifications to identify those event notifications corresponding to registered events, and notifying the viewer of occurrences of registered events for which event notifications have been received.

11. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein registered events occur in programs broadcast on a plurality of channels.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the second program is broadcast live and the event is determined in real-time.

13. (Original) An article comprising: a storage medium having a plurality of machine readable instructions, wherein when the instructions are executed by a processor, the instructions provide for handling of event notifications in television programming, the instructions including receiving a television stream, cause the display of a first program of a first channel received in the television stream for viewing by a viewer, and notifying the viewer of an event occurring in a second program of a second channel being broadcast concurrently with the first program.

14. (Original) The article of claim 13, wherein the television stream comprises an enhanced television stream.

15. (Original) The article of claim 14, further comprising instructions for receiving an event notification within the enhanced television stream, the event notification indicating occurrence of the event.

16. (Original) The article of claim 15, wherein the enhanced television stream comprises a digital television stream and the event notification comprises an ATVEF trigger.

17. (Original) The article of claim 13, further comprising instructions for receiving an event notification indicating occurrence of the event, the event notification comprising an ATVEF trigger communicated over the Internet.

18. (Original) The article of claim 13, further comprising instructions for automatically causing the changing of the channel after the event occurs to cause the display of the second program of the second channel instead of the first program.

19. (Original) The article of claim 13, further comprising instructions for concurrently causing the display of the first program on a first portion of a display and the second program on a second portion of the display.

20. (Original) The article of claim 13, further comprising instructions registering for notification of events.

21. (Original) The article of claim 20, further comprising instructions for receiving a plurality of event notifications, filtering the event notifications to identify those event notifications corresponding to registered events, and notifying the viewer of occurrences of registered events for which event notifications have been received.

22. (Original) A method of broadcasting enhanced television programs comprising:

defining events occurring in programs;

creating ATVEF triggers representing event notifications corresponding to the events;

creating an enhanced television stream, the enhanced television stream comprising television programs and the ATVEF triggers;

broadcasting the enhanced television stream.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the enhanced television stream comprises a digital television stream and the events occur in programs broadcast on a plurality of channels.

24. (Original) The method of claim 22, further comprising communicating the ATVEF triggers to a receiver using the Internet.

25. (Original) The method of claim 22, further comprising broadcasting event definitions to receivers for registration of associated events by viewers.

26. (Original) A method of receiving enhanced television programs comprising:

receiving definitions of events occurring in programs;

providing the event definitions to a viewer for selection of events of interest;

receiving registrations for selected events of interest from the viewer;

receiving an enhanced television stream, the stream comprising television programs and event notifications corresponding to events; and

comparing the received event notifications to the registered events and notifying the viewer when a received event notification corresponds to a registered event.

27. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein the enhanced television stream comprises a digital television stream and the events occur in programs broadcast on a plurality of channels.

28. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein the enhanced television stream comprises a digital television stream and ATVEF triggers represent the event notifications.

29. (Original) The method of claim 27, further comprising automatically causing the changing of a currently tuned channel carrying a first program being viewed after receiving an event notification corresponding to a registered event to display a second program associated with the registered event instead of the first program.

30. (Original) An article comprising: a storage medium having a plurality of machine readable instructions, wherein when the instructions are executed by a processor, the instructions provide for handling of event notifications in television programming, the instructions including receiving definitions of events occurring in programs, providing the event definitions to a viewer for selection of events of interest, receiving registrations for selected events of interest from the viewer, receiving an enhanced television stream, the stream comprising television programs and event notifications corresponding to events, and comparing the received event notifications to the registered events and alerting the viewer when a received event notification corresponds to a registered event.

31. (Original) The article of claim 30, wherein the enhanced television stream comprises a digital television stream and the events occur in programs broadcast on a plurality of channels.

32. (Original) The article of claim 30, wherein the enhanced television stream comprises a digital television stream and ATVEF triggers represent the event notifications.

33. (Original) The article of claim 30, further comprising instructions for automatically causing the changing of a currently tuned channel carrying a first program being viewed after receiving an event notification corresponding to a registered event to

display a second program associated with the registered event instead of the first program.